

Chapter 8¹²	Sign Regulations		
	Part 1	General Provisions	8.1-1
	Part 2	Residential/Office Signs	8.2-1
	Part 3	Business Signs	8.3-1
	Part 4	Outdoor Advertising Signs	8.4-1
	Part 5	Portable Signs	8.5-1
	Part 6	Signs Along Special Roadway Corridors	8.6-1

¹ Not in effect within the City of Jeffersontown, see Appendix 1B for details.

² Where the City of Middletown Sign Ordinance Regulations are more restrictive, such as the disallowance of portable or temporary signs, the prohibition of billboards or off-premises advertising signs, and reduced signs in the historic district, such more restrictive regulations shall apply.

8.1.1 Relationship to the Comprehensive Plan

The Sign Regulations implement the following Cornerstone 2020 Comprehensive Plan Goals, Objectives and Plan Elements:

Goals	Objectives	Plan Elements
Community Form Goals A3, C1, D1, E1, F4, G2, H4	Community Form Objectives A3.1, A3.4, C2.5, C4.5, D2.4, E2.4, F4.4, G4.3, H4.3	Guidelines 1, 3, 13

8.1.2 Definitions

Certain terms are defined for the purposes of this regulation. All other words and phrases shall be given their common, ordinary meaning unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

Address sign: The numeric reference of a use or building to a street name.

Area of sign: The total area of the sign face, which is used to display a message or attract attention, not including its supporting structures.

Attached Sign: A business sign painted on or mounted on and parallel to the façade of a building and extending in front of the building wall 18 inches or less. Signs temporarily or permanently affixed to a window are not considered attached signs.

Awning: A shelter supported by the exterior wall of a building and projecting a minimum of 24 inches from the wall over a window and/or doorway or building facade.

Awning sign: Graphics, symbols and written copy painted on, printed on, or attached flat against the surface of an awning.

Banner Sign: A cloth, plastic or other soft material sign placed flat against the façade of a building. No banner sign shall flap or move with the wind.

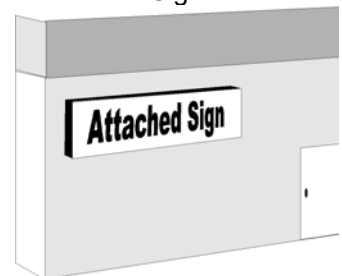
Bench sign: A sign painted on or affixed to any portion of a bench or seating area at bus stops or other such pedestrian areas.

Business Sign (on premises sign): A sign used to identify a business, profession, trade or occupation on the site and/or the generic or brand name products or services available at the site, and shall include an attached sign, window sign, freestanding sign, projecting sign, awning sign, and freestanding directional sign all as more specifically described in and allowed by **Chapter 8, Part 3** hereof, and a small freestanding sign as more specifically described in and allowed by **Section 8.5.2** hereof.

Illustration 8.1.2 Awning and Awning Sign



Illustration 8.1.1 Attached Sign

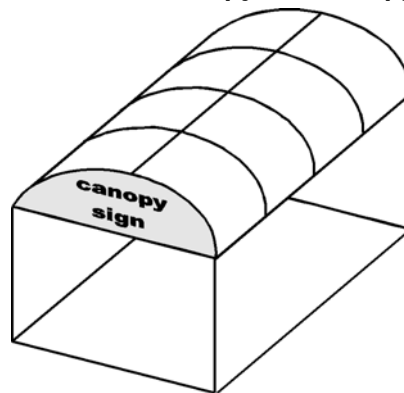


Canopy, Building: A rigid, multi-sided structure covered with fabric, metal or other material and supported by a building at one or more points and by columns or posts at the other points.

Canopy, Free-standing: A rigid multi-sided structure covered with fabric, metal or other material and supported solely by columns or posts.

Canopy Sign: is a sign painted on, printed on or attached flat against the surface of the canopy.

Illustration 8.1.3 Canopy and Canopy Sign



Changeable copy sign/Reader board: A sign or portion thereof with characters, letters, or illustrations that can be changed or rearranged without altering the face or the surface of the sign. A sign on which the only copy that changes is an electronic or mechanical indication of time or temperature shall be considered a “time and temperature” portion of a sign and not a changeable copy sign for purposes of this Regulation.

Changing Image Sign: A sign, including a sign using a video display method, which changes its message or background by means of electrical, kinetic, solar or mechanical energy. A video display method is a method of display characterized by real-time, full-motion imagery of at least television quality.

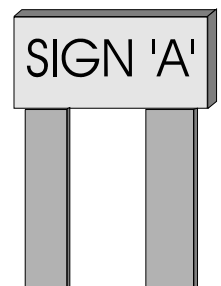
Club Identification Sign: A sign used to identify a club, lodge, fraternity or sorority.

Columnar Sign: A freestanding business sign supported by columns or pillars having an aggregate width equal to at least 40% but less than 80% of the width of the sign cabinet or sign face.

Community Facility Identification Sign: A sign identifying public and governmental buildings and facilities including offices, training armories, storage, maintenance and repair facilities located on the site.

Construction Sign: A sign used to identify the persons or businesses engaged in the construction of a building on site.

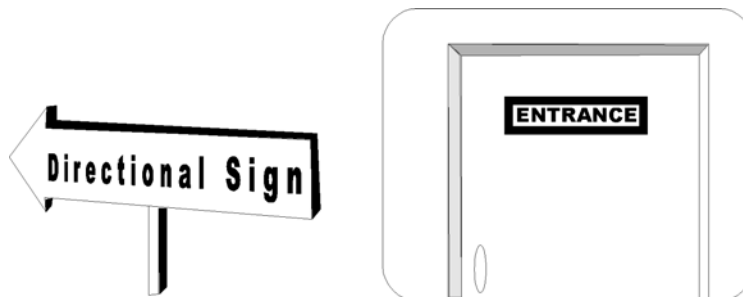
**Illustration 8.1.4
Columnar Sign**



Corporate Flags: A flag used to advertise a business, product or service. Corporate flags shall be considered business signs and shall be subject to the business sign restrictions as listed under Chapter 8, Signs.

Directional Sign: An on-premise sign used to direct pedestrian or vehicular traffic, including but not limited to signs for entrances, exits, parking areas, one-way drives and drive-throughs.

Illustration 8.1.5 Freestanding and Attached Directional Signs



Directory sign: A sign, which lists the names of the occupants of a multiple occupancy building or site.

Elevation: A geometrical projection of a building on a vertical plane.

Façade: All the wall planes of a structure as seen from one side or view. For example, the front façade of a building would include all of the wall area that would be shown on the front elevation of the building plans.

Freestanding sign: A sign that is set firmly in or upon the ground surface and is not attached to any building or other structure.

Grade: The average level of the finished surface of the ground adjacent to a sign or to the exterior wall of the building to which a sign is affixed.

Illegal sign: A sign, which was not in compliance with this regulation, or with the applicable regulation when it was erected, installed, altered or displayed.

Illuminated sign: A sign with an artificial light source, either internally or externally, for the purpose of lighting the sign.

Incidental sign: Any sign, generally informational, that has a purpose secondary to the use of the lot on which it is located, such as "no parking," "entrance," "loading only," "telephone," and other similar directives. No sign with a commercial message legible from a position off the lot on which the sign is located shall be considered incidental.

See illustrations related to types of freestanding signs such as monument style sign, columnar sign and pole/pylon sign.

Institution Identification Sign: A sign identifying a church, school or other institution of learning, library, museum, community center or similar institution on site.

Marquee: A roof like awning or canopy of permanent construction, projecting from the wall of a building above an entrance often bearing a signboard.

Marquee Sign: is a sign painted on, printed on or attached flat against the surface of the marquee.

Master Plan Project Identification Sign: An on-premises sign which identifies the name of a Master Plan Project that contains more than five (5) lots and is located at the primary access to the Master Plan Project.

Metropolitan Area: An area within Jefferson County, Kentucky as shown on the attached map (**Figure 8.1.1**) which is incorporated herein and said area being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the centerline of Dixie Highway, said point being 2,000 feet Northeast of the centerline of the Snyder Freeway; thence with a line parallel to the centerline of the Snyder Freeway, if extended, North 64 degrees 32 minutes 19 seconds West crossing the Ohio River to the Kentucky State Line; thence Northeast with said state line to a point, said point being 2,000 feet South of the centerline of the Snyder Freeway if extended from its terminus at US Highway 42; thence with a line crossing the Ohio River and parallel to the centerline of the Snyder Freeway South 64 degrees 16 minutes 47 seconds East to a point in the east line of US 42, said point being 2,000 feet Southwest of the centerline of the Snyder Freeway; thence with a line 2,000 feet from the centerline of the Snyder Freeway, and parallel to same, southeast, south, southwest, west, southwest and west to the point of beginning.

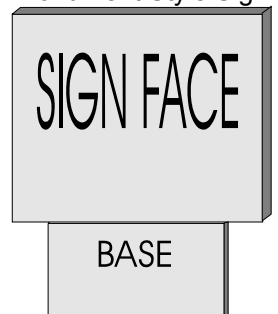
Monument Style Sign: A freestanding business sign with a base width of at least eighty percent (80%) of the width of the sign cabinet or sign face.

Multi-family Residential Identification Sign: A sign used to identify a multi-family residential development on site.

Non-conforming sign: A sign that was erected or installed in compliance with the sign regulation in effect at the time of its erection or installation but which is not in compliance with this Regulation and which has not been reconstructed, altered or otherwise modified since the adoption of this Regulation in any manner which renders the sign or its placement less in compliance with this regulation.

Non-Metropolitan Area: All the area within Jefferson County, Kentucky not described as a Metropolitan area.

Illustration 8.1.6
Monument Style Sign



Office Building Identification Sign: A sign used to identify an office building on site, or, where allowed, the occupants thereof.

Off-premises sign: See Outdoor Advertising Sign.

On-premises sign: See Business Sign.

Outdoor Advertising Sign: commonly known as a “billboard” or an “off premises sign” is a sign used to display, advertise or otherwise direct attention to any business enterprise, commodity, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered at a location other than the premises on which the sign is located. A shared business sign that meets the provisions of this chapter and a directional sign as authorized in **Section 8.1.3** (5), below, shall not be considered an off premises sign.

Pole/Pylon Sign: A sign that is mounted on one or more freestanding poles or pylons.

Portable sign: A sign, which is not permanently anchored by way of a rigid, nonflexible connection to a building or the ground.

Illustration 8.1.7
Pole/Pylon Sign

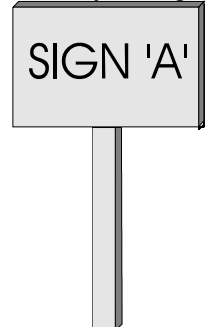
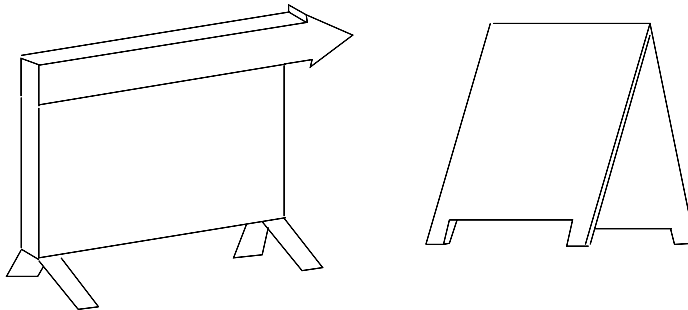
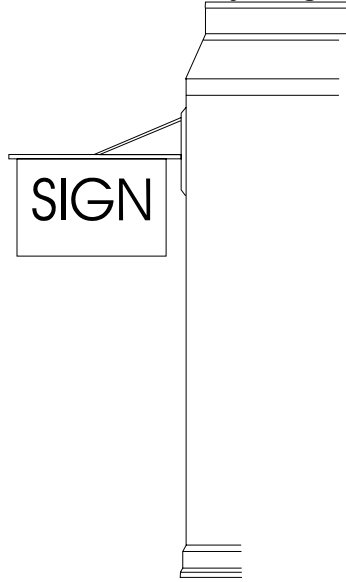


Illustration 8.1.8 Examples Portable Signs



Projecting sign: Any sign, which is erected on or attached to and not parallel to a building wall or structure and extends beyond the building wall more than eighteen (18) inches.

Illustration 8.1.9 Projecting Sign



Note: One or more businesses occupying the same space, such as a filling station with a convenience store that may include a fast food restaurant service area, would not be eligible for a shared business sign. Multiple businesses in a shopping center, even if they are on the same lot, would qualify for a shared business sign.

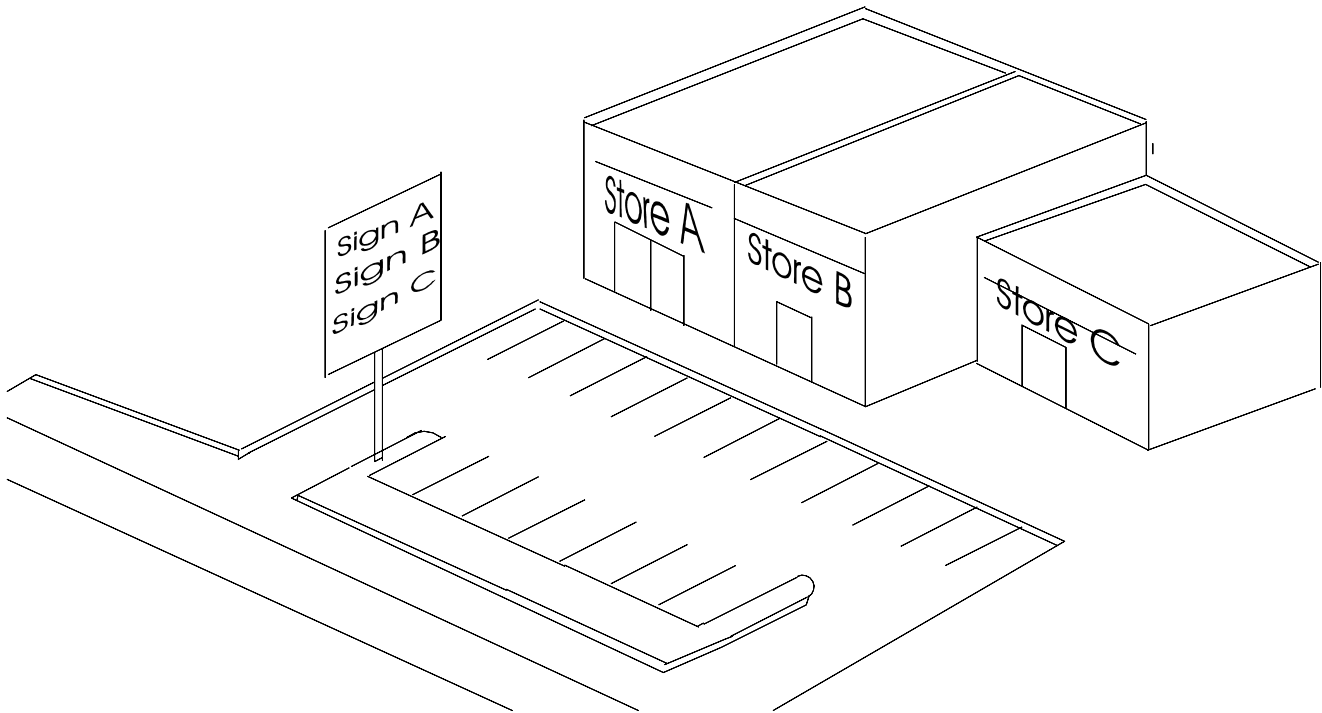
Rent/Sale Sign: A sign used to advertise the premises on site or a portion thereof for sale or lease.

Roof sign: A sign erected and constructed wholly or in part upon, against, or above the roof of a building. For purposes of this Regulation, any portion of a building above or behind the fascia or parapet of a building shall be considered part of the roof.

Shared Business Sign: A business sign that advertises two or more businesses in separate premises, which utilize common off-street parking and/or shared access. A shared business sign is not considered an outdoor advertising sign by this chapter.

NOTE: Roof Signs are prohibited.

Illustration 8.1.10



Sign: Any display to public view of letters, devices, structures, fixtures, displays, emblems, pictures, placards, or any parts or combinations thereof designed to provide direction, draw attention to, or advertise any establishment, product, goods, place, activity, business, or service. See exemptions listed in **Section 8.1.3**.

Sign plan: A coordinated plan for developing signs for an individual building or a group of buildings.

Single Family Residential Occupant Sign: A sign used to identify the individual or individuals occupying a single-family residence.

Small Freestanding Business Sign: A freestanding business sign that is no greater than (12) square feet in area for each sign face.

Special Event Sign: A temporary sign used to advertise a special event associated with a religious institution, government facility, or other not-for-profit organization.

Street frontage: The distance along which a lot line adjoins a public street right-of-way between lot lines intersecting the same street. Corner lots have at least two (2) street frontages.

For special event sign and small freestanding business sign refer to portable sign definition for illustrations.

Structure: Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires location on the ground, or attachment to something having a location on the ground, including walls or fences exceeding four (4) feet in height, buildings, and signs. In these regulations, reference to buildings includes structures and vice versa.

Subdivision Identification Sign: A sign used to identify a residential subdivision on site.

Temporary sign: A sign whose removal within a specified period of time is required by Chapter 8 of the Land Development Code and which complies with the appropriate regulations of that chapter.

Time or temperature sign: A sign or portion thereof on which the only copy that changes is an electronic or mechanical indication of time or temperature.

Window: The combined area of glazing within a wall opening.

Window sign: A sign that is placed inside a window, or applied or attached to windowpanes or glass, and which is visible from the exterior of the window. Signs that are permanently painted or otherwise permanently affixed to the window shall be considered window signs.

Illustration 8.1.11

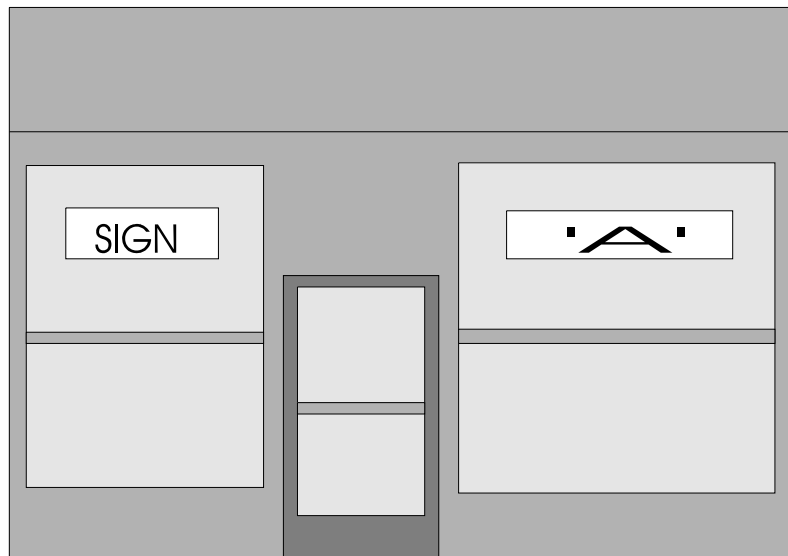
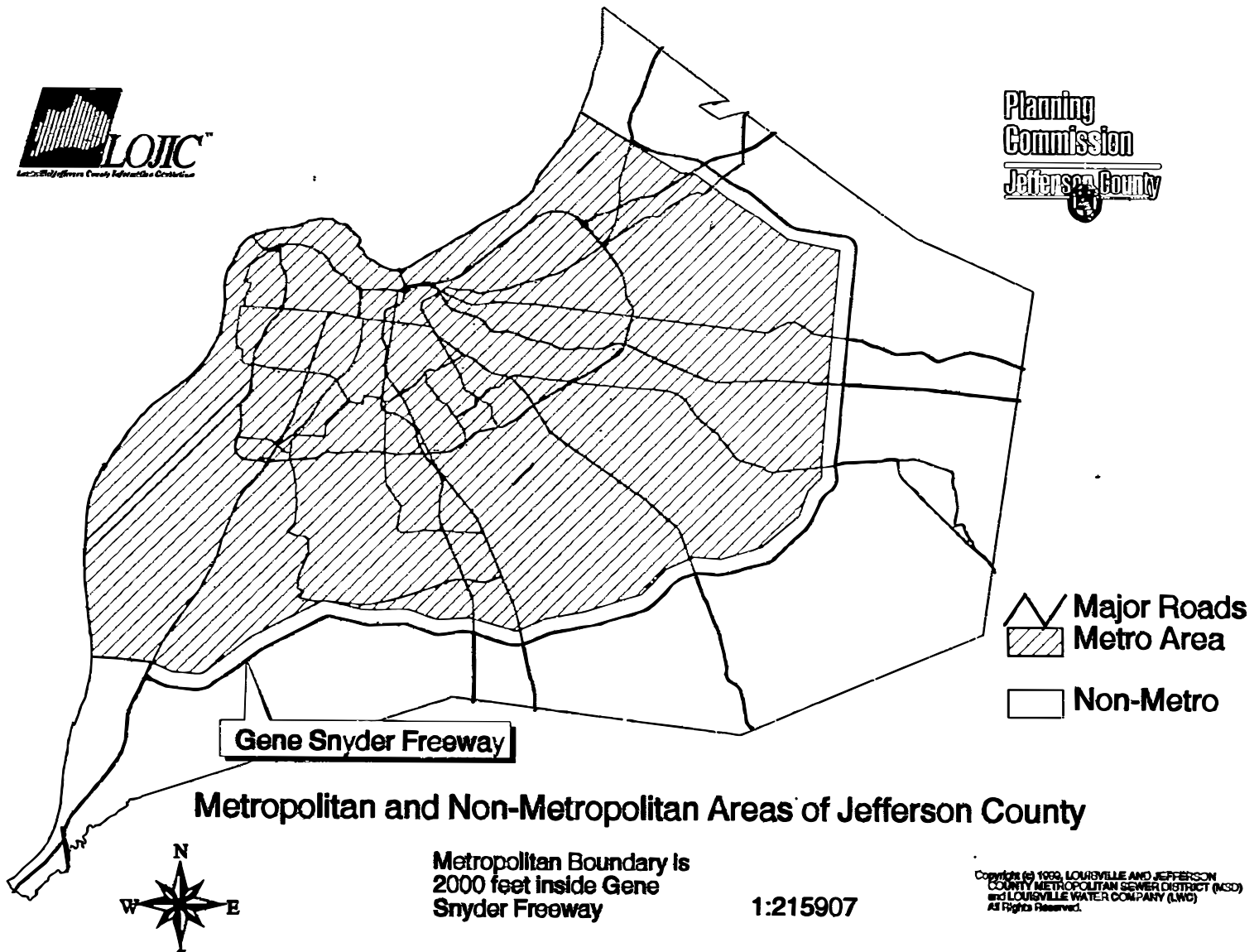


Figure 8.1.1



8.1.3 Signs Exempt From Regulation

The following signs shall be exempt from regulation under this Chapter 8:

1. Any traffic sign, public notice or warning required by a valid and applicable federal, state, or local law, regulation, or ordinance.
2. Holiday lights and decorations on residential lots with no commercial message; and retail store window displays of merchandise, freestanding three-dimensional promotional items (with or without proprietary words or symbols solely describing the merchandise and/or merchandise that is sold in the store), and/or display fixtures or backdrops not affixed to windowpanes or glass.
3. Traffic control signs on private property, such as Stop, Yield, and similar signs, and which contain no commercial message.
4. Signs within a ballpark, field or diamond which indicates sponsorship of the teams or activities that occur therein. These signs shall be oriented toward the field or diamond.
5. Directional signs that assist the public in locating community facilities or health care facilities, as approved by the Director of Works and the Planning Director based on a finding by the directors that the signs are necessary to promote public health and safety. Directional signs may be located in the right-of-way or on private property, with permission of the property owner or public agency having jurisdiction over the right-of-way. The size, design and illumination shall be subject to approval by the Works and Planning Directors.
6. Monumental commemorative sculpture and/or graphic art in any medium and including images depicting real or allegorical persons, non-commercial themes or symbols, historical scenes and events or idealized scenes, and inscribed dedications or quotations, permanently attached to and incorporated into the overall design of all or part of one or more facades of a community center, church, school, library, museum, hospital, or similar public or private, not-for-profit, institutional or civic structures.
7. Signs placed by a public utility for the safety, welfare, or convenience of the public, including, but not limited to signs identifying high voltage, public telephone, or underground cables.
8. Non-illuminated names of buildings, dates of erection, monument statues, commemorative tablets and the like when carved into stone, concrete, metal, or any other permanent type of construction and made an integral part of an allowed structure or made flush to the ground.

9. Non-illuminated signs used to identify a non-registered historic property and/or permanently preserved open space property (preserved meaning through the use of conservation easement or fee simple ownership) erected by a not-for-profit organization and/or government agency. No commercial messages shall be allowed on the sign. The sign shall be constructed from stone, metal or any other permanent type of construction and must be permanently anchored to the ground. The sign shall not exceed five (5) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height.
10. Signs used to identify local Landmark/National Register historic sites.
11. No trespassing signs not to exceed two (2) square feet in area.
12. Signs upon a vehicle, provided that any such vehicle with a sign face of over two square feet is not conspicuously parked so as to constitute a sign; nothing herein prevents such a vehicle from being used for bona fide delivery and other vehicular purposes.
13. Animating features such as public art or murals of a non-commercial nature, as approved by the Planning Director.
14. Address signs no greater than five (5) square feet in area. Address signs in excess of five (5) square feet in area shall be considered attached business signs and shall be counted toward the number and area of attached signage permitted on a building façade.
15. Signs required by law or a duly constituted governmental body.

8.1.4 Nonconforming Signs

Any sign legally in existence on the effective date of any zoning regulation, which does not permit such signs may continue in existence as a matter of right. A nonconforming sign may be maintained and repaired on the same property so long as the area, height, placement of movable parts, and luminosity are not altered to make the sign less in conformance with this regulation. Development sites with a non-conforming sign(s) may not install any additional freestanding signs if an existing freestanding sign is more than twenty (20%) percent nonconforming or any additional attached signs if an existing attached sign is more than twenty (20%) percent nonconforming even if one or more would otherwise be allowed by other provisions of this chapter. Nonconforming in this instance deals with area and height dimensions only. Non-conforming freestanding signs that meet the situation listed above shall be brought into 100% compliance before a second freestanding sign can be permitted.

NOTE: *Structural components include the base and frame of the sign, but do not include the sign face.*

At such time as any structural element of a nonconforming sign is replaced, the sign must be brought into compliance with the requirements of current regulations, except that a nonconforming business sign may be replaced by another nonconforming business sign, provided that all nonconformance in area, height, size, and setback is reduced by fifty percent (50%) of the difference between the existing nonconforming sign and what the regulation allows. Exception: No reduction in nonconformance shall be required for the replacement of signs, awnings, canopies and marquees that were damaged by a weather event or accident (i.e. vehicular accident) unless the damage results from neglect of maintenance or other willful act of the property owner. Replacement of structural elements in this context means the disassembly and subsequent re-assembly or the substantial alteration of the pole, base, or frame. For awnings and canopies any change to the frame shall be considered as a structural change. The replacement of material covers shall not be considered a structural change.

8.1.5 Removal Of Certain Nonconforming Signs

Nonconforming signs that have been abandoned shall be immediately removed by the sign owner or lessee, or the property owner. There shall be a presumption that a nonconforming sign has been abandoned in the event that for a period of 360 days, the business, which the sign advertises ceases operation or the use of the sign is discontinued. Upon failure of the sign owner or lessee, or property owner to remove the nonconforming sign in accordance with this Section, a zoning enforcement officer may issue a written notice to the sign owner or lessee, or property owner ordering that the sign shall be removed within thirty (30) days. The action of the zoning enforcement officer may be appealed to the Board of Zoning Adjustment in accordance with the provisions in KRS Chapter 100.

As applicable to non-conforming signs in this Section, the word “remove” shall mean:

1. The sign face, along with posts, columns, or supports of freestanding signs, shall be taken down and removed from the property.
2. The sign face and supporting structures of “projecting”, “roof” or “attached” signs shall be taken down and removed from the property.
3. The sign face of “painted wall signs” shall be removed by painting over the wall sign in such a manner as to completely cover up and hide from sight the sign in question.

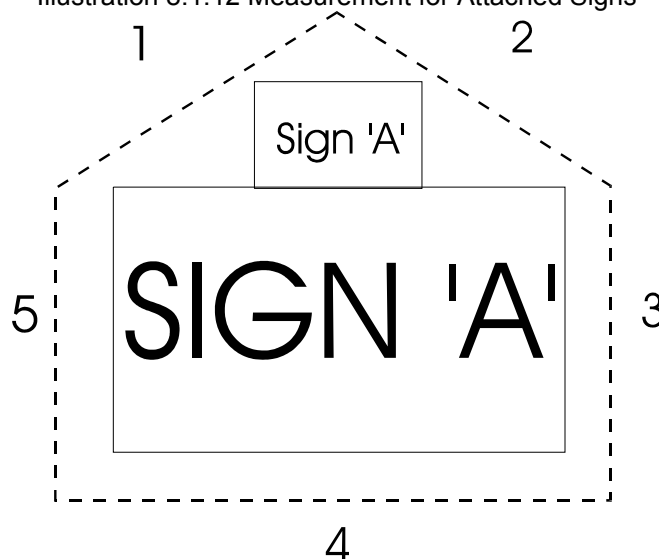
8.1.6 General Requirements

The following standards are applicable to development proposals within all form districts.

- A. No sign shall be placed in a manner visible from any public street, alley, right-of-way, sidewalk or other public easement except as provided herein nor shall any sign be placed in or extend over street, right-of-way, roadway, sidewalk, public or private utility or access or other easement, or alley except as provided herein and with the approval of the Director of the Department of Public Works for encroachment within the right-of-way of public streets.
- B. All signs allowed hereunder shall be constructed and placed so as not to obstruct sight lines for persons using streets, pedestrian rights-of-way and driveways; (see [Section 5.1.7](#) H for restrictions on signs in the sight triangle).
- C. No sign shall be allowed to be illuminated except as expressly provided herein. Signs which are otherwise allowed to be illuminated are not allowed if the Director shall find that the lighting causes glare or otherwise interferes with the vision of persons operating motor vehicles. All illuminated signs shall be non-flashing and shall be constant in intensity and color, except that signs which display time and temperature and changeable copy signs in accordance with [Section 8.1.6M](#) are allowed in C-N, C-I, C-2, C-3, C-M, EZ-1, M-I, M-2 and M-3 zones.
- D. No sign shall be allowed if the Planning Director finds that the sign is constructed or designed in a manner, which may cause the sign to be confused with a traffic sign or other traffic control device.
- E. The maximum allowed area for all signs other than freestanding business signs shall be determined by drawing five or fewer straight lines encompassing the extremities of the sign within the smallest possible area, except that outdoor advertising signs are allowed extensions and embellishments beyond the rectangular sign as more specifically provided in [Section 8.4.5](#).

NOTE: A 30-foot sight triangle is required at all intersections.

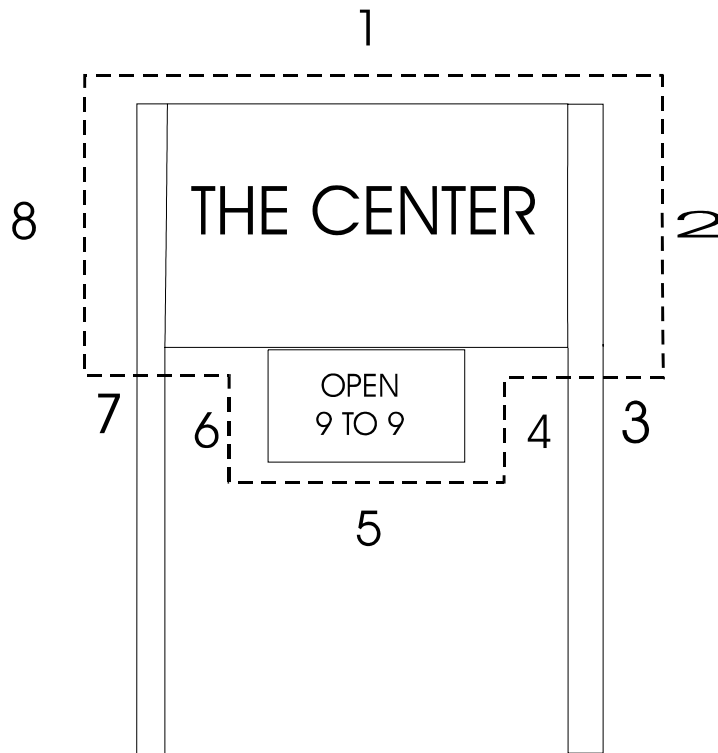
Illustration 8.1.12 Measurement for Attached Signs



Note: To calculate the area of an attached, calculate the area of the polygon created by drawing the five lines around the extremities of the sign face.

- F. The maximum allowed area for freestanding business signs shall be measured by drawing eight (8) or fewer straight lines encompassing the extremities of the sign within the smallest possible area, provided, however, that the area of a freestanding sign shall not include poles, supports or other structures which are solely for support and which do not contain any advertising and, the area of a freestanding sign shall not include the space between the business identification portion of a freestanding business sign and the reader board portion.

Illustration 8.1.13 Measurement of Freestanding Signs



Note: To calculate the area of a freestanding sign, calculate the area of the polygon created by drawing the eight lines around the extremities of the sign face.

- G. Signs, which revolve, rotate or move shall be permitted in the C-N, EZ-1, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-M, M-1, M-2, and M-3 zoning districts only and no such sign shall move faster than one cycle every ten (10) seconds. Signs, which revolve, rotate or move shall not be permitted within the Neighborhood, Traditional Neighborhood, Traditional Marketplace Corridor and Village Form Districts.
- H. No sign shall have more than four faces. Signs with more than two sign faces shall be calculated for compliance with this section in the following manner. The maximum allowable size of each sign face shall be calculated by taking the maximum allowable square footage for a two-sided freestanding sign (from [Table 8.3.2](#)) and dividing it by the total number of sign faces.

Example: four-sided sign, with a permitted area of 40 SF would be allowed to have sign faces that are 10 SF each.

- I. One freestanding rent/sale sign per site not exceeding twelve (12) square feet in area shall be allowed in any district. For lots abutting more than one street, one such rent/sale sign shall be allowed for each abutting street. In the C-N, EZ-1, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-M, M-1, M-2, M-3, OR, OR-1, OR-2, OR-3, OTF, W-1, W-2, W-3, PRO and PEC Districts freestanding or attached rent/sale signs not exceeding sixty-four (64) square feet shall be allowed. Such signs shall be removed no later than seven (7) days after closing of sale or consummation of lease. Rent/Sale signs within the above listed zoning districts may have two signs on street frontages in excess of 600 feet. The area of each of the two signs combined shall not exceed the total maximum area allowed for one rent/sale sign.
- J. One or more signs identifying persons or business firms engaged in the construction of a building on site, are allowed, provided that each such sign not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area and fifteen (15) feet above ground in height. In the alternative, one sign identifying all persons or business firms engaged in construction of a building on site is allowed, provided the sign shall not exceed sixty-four (64) square feet in area and fifteen (15) feet above ground in height. All such signs must be removed within seven (7) days following issuance of a certificate of occupancy for the building.
- K. Awnings and canopies constructed of translucent materials that are internally illuminated, with the exception of fully shielded lighting fixtures directed down onto non-illuminated ground and/or sidewalk shall be considered attached signs and shall be included as part of the total allowable signage on any one facade of a building as listed in **Section 8.3.2**. Signs located on an opaque awning or canopy shall be included as part of the total allowable signage area permitted on any one facade of a building as listed in **Section 8.3.2** of this chapter. Awning signs and canopy signs may be internally illuminated in accordance with **Section 8.3.1**. Exterior lighting is permitted in accordance with **Chapter 4, Part 1, Lighting**.
- L. Outdoor Advertising signs are prohibited except as specifically allowed under **Chapter 8, Part 4**.
- M. Changing image signs (includes electronic changeable copy signs and time and temperature signs) shall conform to the following standards:
 - 1. All changing image signs under five (5) square feet in area with no more than one line of text shall not exceed a rate of change of once per four (4) seconds.
 - 2. All changing image signs over five (5) square feet in area and/or with more than one (1) line of text shall not exceed a rate of change of once per 20 seconds.

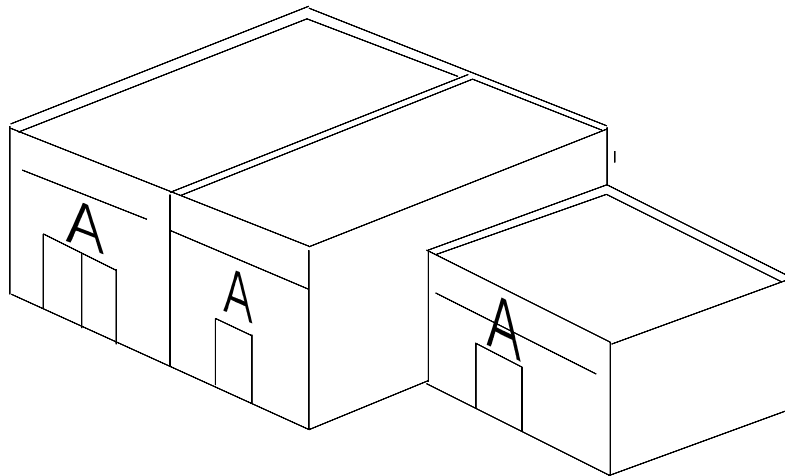
NOTE: Translucent internally illuminated awnings and/or canopies with or without signage shall be considered attached signage and shall be included as part of the total allowable signage on any one façade. Opaque awnings with signs shall have only the area of the sign included as part of the total allowable signage on any one façade.

3. Changing image signs with a rate of change in excess of the restrictions set forth in numbers 1 & 2 above or signs with video displays; shall require approval from the Planning Commission or designee. The Planning Commission review shall include at a minimum the following issues:
 - a. Characteristics of the adjacent street (traffic speed, number of lanes, functional class, etc.)
 - b. Proximity to another changing image sign or sign with a video display
 - c. Dimensions of the proposed signs
 - d. Number of lines of text
 - e. Proximity to residential development
 - f. Legibility of text

- N. The area of a façade of a building is determined by adding the square footage of surface area of each section of wall visible from a given perspective. For buildings with more than one wall along one façade (for example, rooms jutting out from the main building or a building where each floor is set back from the floor below), all of the walls are included in the total area. The total area does not include any roof area.

Illustration 8.1.14

Total Façade Area = the Area of A+A+A for façade facing public street frontage



- O. This regulation shall be in addition to the requirements of KRS 177.830 – 177.890, the most restrictive requirement applies.

- P. Planned Development District sign standards shall be established when the Master Plan for the Planned Development District is developed and approved by the Planning Commission.

*NOTE: KRS
transportation related
definitions.*

- Q. Specific provisions within this regulation that are not eligible for a variance in accordance with KRS 100.111 may be waived in accordance with **Chapter 11, Part 8**.

- R. Preservation Districts and Local Landmarks:

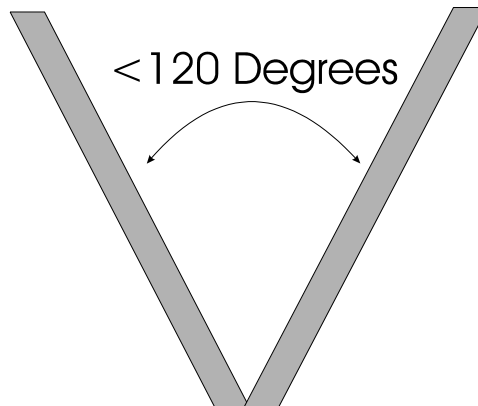
All new sign construction within designated Preservation Districts and for Local Landmarks shall conform to the Landmarks Commission Design Guidelines.

NOTE:
Variances may be obtained from BOZA for dimensional requirements including area and height of signs.

Note: Refer to definition for illustration.

- S. Window signs shall not exceed 25% of the total window area on a given facade.
- T. A composite group of signs integrated into one framed unit or compact structure constitutes one sign.
- U. A back-to-back or V-shaped sign constitutes one sign if it has a common set of supports. If the interior angle between the two sign faces is less than 120 degrees, the sign area is of one sign face only. If the angle between the two sign faces is greater than or equal to 120 degrees, the sign area is the sum of the areas of the two sign faces.

Illustration 8.1.15



- V. Downtown Form District:

All new signs within the designated Downtown Form Special Districts shall be reviewed and approved in accordance with the guidelines and procedures of the Downtown Development Review Overlay (DDRO) District. Recognizing the unique character and function of these Special Districts, the DDRO, at its discretion, may allow signs (type, size, height, location and functional characteristics) not otherwise permitted under Chapter 8 for developments within the Fourth Street Entertainment District (4th Street between Liberty Street and Broadway) and for individual cultural arts attractions requiring DDRO review. In review and approval of such signage the DDRO Committee shall follow the review procedures outlined for LDC waivers in **Chapter 11**.

- W. Roof signs are prohibited.

- X. The use of pennants, streamers and balloons as signs shall be prohibited (see definition of “sign”).
- Y. All permanent signage shall require a permit from the appropriate building department unless stated otherwise within this chapter.

8.2.1 Single Family Residential Occupant Sign

One single-family residential occupant sign not exceeding one (1) square foot shall be allowed anywhere on the premises of each residence.

8.2.2 Subdivision Identification Sign

One freestanding subdivision identification sign not exceeding sixty-four (64) square feet in area and fifteen (15) feet in height shall be allowed at each dedicated street entrance within the building lines of the subdivision during construction, for not more than sixty (60) days prior to the commencement of construction, and after construction until such time as eighty percent (80%) of the lots are sold. Thereafter, one freestanding subdivision identification sign not exceeding fifteen (15) square feet in area and six feet in height shall be allowed at each dedicated street entrance within the building lines. In the alternative, a signature entrance with one 15 square feet attached sign per wall or fence (no more than two signs) is allowed as permitted in [Section 4.4.3](#) at each entrance to the development.

8.2.3 Community Facility Identification Sign

Public and governmental buildings and facilities including offices, training armories, storage, maintenance and repair facilities may be allowed one non-flashing identification sign, not to exceed 60 square feet in area and 10 feet in height, may be located at the major entrances, provided the sign complies with [Section 5.1.7 H](#) (Sight Triangle), except in zoning districts and form districts where larger signs are allowed. Public utility service buildings and facilities within zoning districts and form districts where signs are not allowed, may erect one non-illuminated identification sign, not to exceed 12 square feet in area, provided the sign complies with [Section 5.1.7 H](#) (Sight Triangle).

8.2.4 Club Identification Sign

One club identification sign facing each bordering street not to exceed six (6) square feet in area is allowed on each site on which an exceptional residential use or club, lodge, fraternity or sorority is located. Any such sign if freestanding must not exceed six (6) feet in height.

8.2.5 Institution Identification Sign

One freestanding or attached institution identification sign not to exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area and not exceeding ten (10) feet in height facing each bordering street is allowed on the premises of any community center, church, private school, library, museum or similar institution, provided that, if the institution is located in a district for which a larger business sign would be allowed, then the size of the sign may conform to the size allowed in that district. Two freestanding signs (32 square feet each) per street shall be permitted for street frontages in excess of 600 feet provided that the two signs are a minimum distance of 300 feet apart. In the alternative, one 50 square foot sign shall be permitted for street frontages in excess of 600 feet. In addition, one 60 square foot banner sign shall be allowed. The banner sign shall be attached to a permanent structure only. Any institution, regardless of street frontage size, is eligible for a banner sign; no permit is required for the banner sign.

8.2.6 Multi-Family Residential Identification Sign

One illuminated or non-illuminated multi-family residential identification sign attached flat on the face of the building and extending no more than eighteen (18) inches from the surface of such building is allowed to face each street bordering on the site on which a multi-family dwelling is located. Said signs may not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area if the site is in the R-5A, R-6, R-7, R-8A or OR-1 Districts and for permitted¹ multi-family dwellings within the TNZD zoning district (including Bed and Breakfast) and may not exceed fifty (50) square feet in area if the site is in the OR-2, OR-3, OTF, W-1 or W-2 Zoning Districts. In Neighborhood, Traditional Neighborhood, Town Center, and Village Form Districts and within the Traditional Neighborhood Zoning District attached signs shall not be located more than three (3) feet above the ceiling of the first floor of the building.

In Campus, Regional Center, Suburban Workplace Suburban Marketplace Corridor and Downtown Form Districts attached signs shall not be located more than three feet above the ceiling of the upper most floor of the building.

Within the Traditional Marketplace Corridor and Traditional Workplace Form Districts the tops of attached signs shall not be higher than 20 feet and shall not extend above the cornice line of the building.

In the alternative one freestanding sign which shall not extend into any required yard is allowed to face each street bordering the site provided that such freestanding signs if located within the R-5A, R-6, R-7, R-8A, TNZD or OR-1 Districts shall not exceed a height of six (6) feet above ground nor exceed an area of twelve (12) square feet and if located in the OR-2, OR-3, OTF, W-1 or W-2 Districts shall not exceed a height of ten (10) feet above ground nor exceed an area of thirty (30) square feet. In the alternative a signature entrance with attached signs is allowed at each entrance to the development as permitted in [Section 8.2.2](#).

8.2.7 Office Building Identification Sign

One illuminated or non-illuminated office building identification sign attached flat on the facade of the building oriented toward the public street providing primary access and extending no more than eighteen (18) inches from the surface of such building is allowed per facade in the OR-1, OR-2, OR-3, OTF, W-1 or W-2 districts and for permitted office uses within the TNZD zoning district. Said signs shall meet the following requirements:

In Neighborhood, Traditional Neighborhood, Town Center, and Village Form Districts and TNZD zoning district, attached signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area. In no event shall an attached sign be located more than three (3) feet above the ceiling of the first floor of the building.

¹Permitted multi-family in TNZD includes multi-family uses of right and mapped multi-family use.

In Campus, Regional Center, Suburban Workplace and Suburban Marketplace Corridor Form Districts attached signs shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet in area. In no event shall an attached sign be located more than three feet above the ceiling of the upper most floor of the building.

Within the Traditional Marketplace Corridor Form District and Traditional Workplace Form District the tops of attached signs shall not be higher than 20 feet and shall not extend above the cornice line of the building. The size of the attached sign(s) shall not exceed sixty-four (64) square feet in area.

Freestanding signs are permitted in accordance with the applicable Form District requirements as listed in **Chapter 8, Part 3**. Office uses within the TNZD zoning district shall use the requirements of the Traditional Neighborhood Form District.

8.3.1 Illuminated/Non-Illuminated Signs

Illuminated or non-illuminated business signs are allowed in all non-residential zoning districts (these districts include: OR, OR-1, OR-2, OR-3, OTF, C-R, C-N, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-M, M-1, M-2, M-3, EZ-1, PEC, PRO, W-1, W-2, W-3) and for non-residential uses within the TNZD zoning district, subject to the restrictions set forth in Sections 8.3.2 - 8.3.5 and the following. Internally illuminated business signs within the Neighborhood, Traditional Neighborhood and Village Form Districts, and within transition zones adjacent to the aforementioned form districts where signs are visible from these form districts shall have opaque backgrounds with translucent letters, symbols and logos. Reader Boards/Changeable Copy Signs, Temporary Business Signs and Special Event Signs are exempt from the previous restriction. Opaque means that the material must not transmit light from an internal illumination source. Outdoor exterior illuminated business signs shall be lighted in accordance with Chapter 4, Part 1, Lighting. Sign lighting shall be subject to the light trespass standards as outlined under Chapter 4, Part 1, Lighting.

8.3.2 Attached, Awning, Canopy and Marquee Signs

- A. There shall be no more than a total of three (3) of any of the following types of signs; attached, or awning, or canopy, or marquee signs on any one facade of a building, subject to the total maximum sign area requirement set forth below, except that multiple use buildings may have one sign for each business. First floor awning, canopy and marquee signs are excluded from the number of awning, attached, canopy or marquee signs permitted on any one façade of a building, subject to the total maximum sign area requirement set forth below; attached signs, canopy signs, marquee signs and awning signs are permitted within all non-residential zoning districts (these districts include: OR, OR-1, OR-2, OR-3, OTF, C-R, C-N, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-M, M-1, M-2, M-3, EZ-1, PEC, PRO, W-1, W-2, W-3), unless otherwise regulated by Section 8.2.7 and within the form district regulations. Commercial uses permitted within a TNZD district may include attached, awning, canopy or marquee signs as authorized in this section, subject to additional limits established in the applicable TNZD Plan Report.
- B. The total area encompassed by all attached signs on any one facade of the building shall not exceed the limits established in Table 8.3.1, below. The area of the building façade shall be measured as specified in Section 8.1.6 N.

Table 8.3.1: Attached Signage

Area of Facade of Building	Maximum Sign Area
Less than 500 square feet	20% of Building Facade Area
Greater than or equal to 500 but less than 1,000 square feet	100 square feet plus 15% of the amount by which Building Facade Area exceeds 500 square feet
Greater than or equal to 1000 but less than 3,500 square feet	175 square feet plus 5% of the amount by which Building Facade Area exceeds 1,000 square ft.
Greater than or equal to 3,500 square feet but less than 5,000 square feet	300 square feet
Greater than or equal to 5,000 square feet (applicable only to industrial uses in M-1, M-2, M-3 and EZ Districts and all uses in C-3 District)	10% of Facade - Maximum of 500 square feet in C-3 Districts and a maximum of 750 square feet in other allowed Districts

- C. An attached sign mounted parallel to the exterior walls of a building may project up to eighteen (18) inches from the surface to which it is mounted. An attached sign constructed flat on the face of such building may extend into the right-of-way no further than eighteen (18) inches from the surface of such building without the approval of the Director of the Department of Public Works. An attached sign mounted to a slanted (inclined) exterior surface may be mounted in the vertical upright position as long as the sign does not project beyond eighteen (18) inches at the point of attachment. No such sign shall extend more than five (5) feet above the highest point of the exterior wall to which it is attached. No such sign shall be mounted on any roof.
1. In Neighborhood, Traditional Neighborhood, Village, Town Center Form Districts attached signs shall not be located more than three (3) feet above the ceiling of the first floor of the building.
 2. In Campus, Regional Center, Suburban Workplace, Suburban Marketplace Corridor and Downtown Form Districts attached signs shall not be located more than three feet above the ceiling of the upper most floor of the building.

3. Within the Traditional Marketplace Corridor Form District the tops of attached signs shall not be higher than 20 feet and shall not extend above the cornice line of the building.
 4. Awnings and canopies containing signs must be mounted no more than 3 feet above the ceiling of the first floor of the building. The area of all awning signs and canopy signs shall be included as part of the total allowable signage on any one facade of a building as listed in **Section 8.3.2.B**.
- D. Window signs are permitted within the C-N, C-1, C-2, C-3 and C-M zoning districts. A use may display window signs so long as the aggregate area of such signs does not exceed 25% of total window area located on the ground floor of the building. For computation of area, window panels separated by muntins or mullions shall be considered as one continuous windowpane. Window signs shall not be considered attached signs.
- E. Form District Specific Attached, Awning and Window Sign Restrictions:
1. Traditional Neighborhood Form Districts:
 - a. Attached, Awning, Canopy and Marquee signs shall be permitted at a maximum total size of 60 square feet in area.
 - b. The area of the illuminated face of outdoor vending machines with advertising graphics shall count toward the number and area of attached signs permitted on a site. Outdoor vending machines shall not be permitted in the right-of-way.
 2. Traditional Marketplace Corridor Form Districts:
 - a. Multiple tenant buildings shall be permitted either an attached sign or a projecting sign for each tenant.

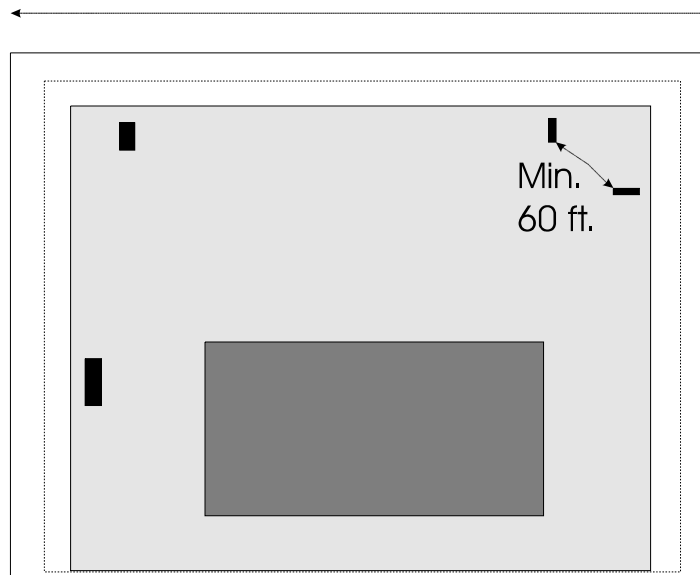
8.3.3 Freestanding Business Signs

In addition to the attached signs allowed above, illuminated or non-illuminated freestanding business signs are allowed subject to the following restrictions:

- A. Freestanding business signs are allowed within all non-residential zoning districts (these districts include: OR, OR-1, OR-2, OR-3, OTF, C-R, C-N, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-M, M-1, M-2, M-3, EZ-1, PEC, PRO, W-1, W-2, W-3), unless otherwise listed under **Chapter 8, Part 2** or restricted within the applicable form district sign restrictions. Commercial uses permitted within a TNZD district may include freestanding business signs in accordance with the restrictions of the Traditional Neighborhood Form District as listed in this section, subject to additional limits established in the applicable TNZD Plan Report.
- B. No freestanding sign shall be located in or project over or into the right-of-way or into any adjoining property.

- C. A lot fronting only on one street shall have no more than one freestanding sign unless the street frontage exceeds 600 feet, then a second freestanding sign is allowed. The sum of the areas of the two freestanding signs combined shall not exceed the total maximum area allowed for one freestanding sign.
- D. A lot fronting on two or more public streets shall be allowed to have one freestanding sign for each street frontage. If one street frontage exceeds 600 feet then a third sign shall be permitted in accordance with [Section 8.3.3C](#). If the site contains more than one street frontage with more than 600 feet of length, then only one of the street frontages shall be permitted to have a second sign in accordance with [Section 8.3.3C](#).
- E. An outdoor advertising sign shall not be counted in determining compliance with items C and D above.
- F. No lot frontage shall have a freestanding sign unless the building situated on that lot is set back at least fifteen (15) feet from the street right-of-way line. Corner lots may have a freestanding sign for the frontage on which the building is setback at least fifteen (15) feet from the street right-of-way line. Traditional Neighborhood, Traditional Marketplace and Village Form Districts shall be exempt from the setback requirement as listed in the two preceding sentences.
- G. There shall be no minimum setback for a freestanding business sign as long as the sign meets the restrictions listed under [Section 8.1.6B](#). Freestanding business signs shall be permitted in required form district setbacks/yards.
- H. Where more than one (1) freestanding sign is proposed for installation on a development site with multiple frontages, a minimum of sixty (60) linear feet shall separate each freestanding sign.

Illustration 8.3.1
Refer to **Sections 8.3.3.C-D&H**
>600 ft. of Frontage



- I. Freestanding business signs for lots adjacent to Scenic Corridors, Olmsted Parkways and Parkways and for lots within the Traditional Marketplace Corridor, Neighborhood, Traditional Neighborhood, Campus and Village Form Districts shall meet one of the following design standards:
 1. The sign shall be a monument style sign; or
 2. The sign shall be a columnar sign; or
 3. In locations where the permit issuer identifies a potential sight distance problem and when the Director of Works determines that the design standards 1 or 2 above would negatively affect sight distance necessary for pedestrian and vehicular traffic accessing the site or using adjacent intersections, another sign style may be approved by the Planning Director.
- J. Form District Specific Freestanding Sign Restrictions:
 1. Traditional Neighborhood Form Districts:
 - a. Freestanding signs are permitted only when the linear street frontage of the lot exceeds 120 feet.
 2. Suburban Workplace Form Districts:

- a. One freestanding master plan project identification sign shall be permitted adjacent to the primary entrance to developments having more than five lots and having an access point from an arterial level street. This sign shall not be counted towards the number of allowed freestanding business signs on a lot. The sign shall not exceed 150 square feet in area and 24 feet in height.

3. Campus Form Districts:

- a. In multiple lot developments the base, side and frame of freestanding signs shall be uniform in design, materials and color.
- b. One freestanding master plan project identification sign shall be permitted adjacent to the primary entrance to developments having more than five lots and having an access point from an arterial level street. This sign shall not be counted towards the number of allowed freestanding business signs on a lot. The sign shall not exceed 100 square feet in area and 18 feet in height.
- c. Signs may be located within the building setbacks, established within [Section 5.3.5](#).

4. Downtown Form District:

NOTE: The freestanding business sign prohibition in DFD is not subject to the LDC waiver process.

- a. Freestanding signs shall be limited to small freestanding business signs, directory signs and directional signs. Freestanding signs shall only be permitted within the storefront zone of the sidewalk, subject to the licensing requirements established by the Director of Works, or as part of the plaza, park or other open space designed in conjunction with the structures(s).

- K. The maximum area and height of freestanding business signs within non-residential zoning districts (these districts include: OR, OR-1, OR-2, OR-3, OTF, C-R, C-N, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-M, M-1, M-2, M-3, EZ-1, PEC, PRO, W-1, W-2, W-3) are listed in [Table 8.3.2](#).

**TABLE 8.3.2 FORM DISTRICT FREESTANDING BUSINESS SIGN
RESTRICTIONS**

Form District	Street Functional Class	Single Business Area (S.F.)	Single Business Height	Shared 2-3 Business Area (S.F.)	Shared 2-3 Business Height	Shared 4 > Business Area (S.F.)	Shared 4> Business Height
Neighborhood	Local	40	6	60	8	80	10
	Collector	60	8	80	10	100	12
	Arterial 4 Lanes or less	80	10	100	12	120	14
	Arterial > 4 Lanes	80	12	100	14	120	16
Town Center	See Neighborhood Above						
Campus	See Neighborhood Above						
Regional Center	Local	60	12	80	14	100	16
	Collector	80	18	100	20	120	22
	Arterial 4 Lanes or Less	100	22	120	24	140	26
	Arterial >4 Lanes	100	24	120	26	140	28
Suburban Marketplace Corridor	See Regional Center Above						
Suburban Workplace	See Regional Center Above						
Traditional Neighborhood	Local	24	4	48	6	64	8
	Collector	32	6	56	8	72	10
	Arterial 4 Lanes or less	48	6	72	8	88	10
	Arterial >4 Lanes	48	8	72	10	88	12
Village	See Traditional Neighborhood Above						
Traditional Workplace	Local	40	10	60	12	80	14
	Collector	60	14	80	16	100	18
	Arterial 4 Lanes or Less	80	18	100	20	120	22
	Arterial .4 Lanes	80	22	100	24	120	26
Traditional Marketplace Corridor	Local	32	6	60	6	80	10
	Collector	48	6	64	6	72	10
	Arterial 4 Lanes or less	48	6	64	6	72	10
	Arterial >4 Lanes	64	8	72	10	88	12

* Lanes refer to driving lanes, which include center turn lanes and medians, de-acceleration lanes are not included.

8.3.4 Freestanding Directional Signs

Freestanding directional signs, i.e., signs used primarily to direct on premise vehicular or pedestrian circulation or traffic, are allowed to a maximum height of three (3) feet, with a maximum area of five (5) square feet. Such signs shall not be counted toward the number of freestanding signs allowed on a lot. One single faced "Menu Board" type sign is allowed for a "drive through" facility and shall not be counted toward the number of freestanding business signs allowed, provided such sign is no larger than forty (40) square feet. Freestanding directional signs shall be permitted within form district setbacks/yards.

Note: See definition for illustration.

8.3.5 Attached Directional Signs

Attached directional signs, i.e., signs used exclusively to direct on premise vehicular or pedestrian circulation or traffic, are allowed to a maximum area of five (5) square feet. Such signs shall not be counted toward the number of attached business signs allowed on a lot. No attached directional sign may exceed a height greater than 10 feet from the grade of the property on which the sign is located.

Note: See definition for illustration.

8.3.6 Projecting Signs

Buildings on lots which contain no freestanding sign (other than a freestanding directional sign) may not have more than one sign which projects perpendicularly from the facade (but not the roof) of the building providing that the sign does not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area, does not extend below nine (9) feet above the ground or sidewalk, or more than eight (8) feet from the facade of the building, or closer than two (2) feet to the abutting roadway. The area of the projecting sign shall be part of the total allowable signage allowed on any one facade of the building as listed in **Section 8.3.2B** of this Part. Multiple use buildings may have one projecting sign for each business, subject to the total maximum sign area permitted in **Table 8.3.1**.

Note: See definition for illustration.

8.3.7 Special Provisions

- A. A single use building may have one attached sign for the sole purpose of furnishing emergency telephone numbers or other such emergency information. Such a sign shall not be counted toward the number of attached signs allowed provided it does not exceed one square foot in area. Multiple use buildings may have one such emergency sign for each independent use. A sign in a gasoline service station identifying a self service and/or full service pump island may be attached to canopy supports or light standards over a pump island at a height greater than the three (3) feet allowed for other directional signs, provided the area of such a sign does not exceed five (5) square feet.
- B. Shared Business Signs shall not be considered outdoor advertising signs by this regulation.

8.4.1 Unilluminated Outdoor Advertising Signs

An unilluminated outdoor advertising sign of less than seventy-two (72) square feet shall be allowed if:

- A. Located in a C-N, C-1, C-2, C-M, M-1, M-2 or M-3 District;
- B. Set back at least fifteen (15) feet from the front or street side property lines if in a C-N, C-1, C-2 or C-M Districts;

Editor's note: *Outdoor advertising signs are prohibited in the city of Middletown*

- C. Located not less than four hundred fifty (450) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the same side of the same street, and not less than nine hundred (900) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the same side of a controlled access highway or designated parkway*;

Editor's note: **"Designated parkways" as referenced in the section of Chapter 10, Part 3.*

- D. Located not less than two hundred twenty five (225) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the opposite side of the same street (measured from the point of intersection on the same side of the street with the line from the existing sign perpendicular to the roadway), and not less than four hundred fifty (450) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the opposite side of the same controlled access highway or designated parkway (as so measured);
- E. Located not less than seventy-five (75) feet from the centerline of an intersecting roadway;
- F. In a C-N District, located not less than two hundred (200) feet measured radially from the nearest edge of a residentially zoned or residentially developed lot in the metropolitan area, in a C-1 through M-3 district, located not less than one hundred fifty (150) feet measured radially from the nearest edge of a residentially zoned or residentially developed lot in the metropolitan area, and located not less than six hundred (600) feet measured radially between the sign and the nearest edge of a residentially zoned or residentially developed lot in the non-metropolitan area;
- G. Located not less than seventy five (75) feet from the nearest edge of the right-of-way of a controlled access highway or designated parkway passing through the metropolitan area and not less than six hundred sixty (660) feet from the nearest edge of a controlled access highway or designated parkway passing through the non-metropolitan area;
- H. Placed so that the highest point of the advertising sign does not exceed sixteen (16) feet above ground;

- I. Located not less than two hundred fifty (250) feet measured radially from any public park or any designated parkway or any landmark property or historic district designated as such by the Louisville Landmark's Commission or the Jefferson County Preservation Commission or from any property listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

8.4.2 Illuminated Outdoor Advertising Signs

An illuminated or non-illuminated outdoor advertising sign of less than three hundred thirty (330) square feet shall be allowed if:

- A. Located in a C-1, C-2, C-M, M-1, M-2 or M-3 District;
- B. Set back at least thirty (30) feet from the front or street side property lines if located in a C-1, C-2 or C-M District;
- C. Located along a major or minor arterial highway as designated in the Comprehensive Plan;
- D. Located not less than six hundred (600) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the same side of the same major or minor arterial highway and not less than twelve hundred (1,200) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the same side of a controlled access highway or designated parkway;
- E. Located not less than three hundred (300) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the opposite side of the same major or minor arterial highway (measured from the point of intersection on the same side of the major or minor arterial highway with the line from the existing sign perpendicular to the roadway), and not less than six hundred (600) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the opposite side of the same controlled access highway or designated parkway (as so measured);
- F. Located not less than seventy-five (75) feet from the centerline of an intersecting roadway;
- G. Located not less than three hundred (300) feet (measured radially) between the sign and the nearest edge of a residentially zoned or residentially developed lot in the metropolitan area and not less than six hundred (600) feet measured radially between the sign and the nearest edge of a residentially zoned or residentially developed lot in the non-metropolitan area;
- H. Located not less than one hundred fifty (150) feet from the nearest edge of the right-of-way of a controlled access highway or designated parkway passing through the metropolitan area and not less than six hundred sixty (660) feet from the nearest edge of the right-of-way of a controlled access highway or designated parkway passing through the non-metropolitan area;

- I. Constructed so the highest point of the sign (including embellishments shall not exceed forty (40) feet above the ground, except that for signs located in the C-1 District the highest point of the sign (including embellishments) shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet above the ground;
- J. Located not less than five hundred (500) feet measured radially from any public park or any designated parkway or any landmark property or historic district designated as such by the Louisville Landmark's Commission or the Jefferson County Preservation Commission or from any property listed in the National Register of Historic Places;
- K. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph i. hereof the highest point of an outdoor advertising sign (including embellishments) located along an elevated section of a controlled access highway may be fifty (50) feet above the ground, provided that the lowest point of the sign shall be not less than ten (10) feet above the grade of the elevated controlled access highway;

8.4.3 Illuminated/Non-Illuminated Outdoor Advertising Sign 330-750 Square Feet

An illuminated or non-illuminated outdoor advertising sign of greater than or equal to three hundred thirty (330) square feet but less than seven hundred fifty (750) square feet shall be allowed if:

- A. Located in a C-2, C-M, M-1, M-2 or M-3 Districts;
- B. Set back at least sixty (60) feet from the front or street side property lines if in a C-2 or C-M District;
- C. Located along a major or minor arterial highway as designated in the Comprehensive Plan;
- D. Located not less than twelve hundred (1,200) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the same side of the same major or minor arterial highway and not less than fifteen hundred (1,500) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the same side of a controlled access highway or designated parkway;
- E. Located not less than six hundred (600) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the opposite side of the same major or minor arterial highway (measured from the point of intersection on the same side of the major or minor arterial highway with the line from the existing sign perpendicular to the roadway), and not less than nine hundred (900) feet from any existing billboard of any size on the opposite side of the same controlled access highway or designated parkway (as so measured);
- F. Located not less than seventy-five (75) feet from the centerline of an intersecting roadway;

- G. Located not less than four hundred (400) feet (measured radially) between the sign and the nearest edge of a residentially zoned or residentially developed lot in the metropolitan area and not less than six hundred (600) feet measured radially between the sign and the nearest edge of a residentially zoned or residentially developed lot in the non-metropolitan area;
- H. Located not less than one hundred fifty (150) feet from the nearest edge of the right-of-way of a controlled access highway or designated parkway passing through the metropolitan area and not less than six hundred sixty (660) feet from the nearest edge of the right-of-way of a controlled access highway or designated parkway passing through the non-metropolitan area;
- I. Constructed so the highest point of the sign (including embellishments) does not exceed forty (40) feet above the ground;
- J. Located not less than five hundred (500) feet measured radially from any public park or any designated parkway or any landmark property or historic district designated as such by the Louisville Landmark's Commission or the Jefferson County Preservation Commission or from any property listed in the National Register of Historic Places;
- K. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph I. hereof the highest point of an outdoor advertising sign (including embellishments) located along an elevated section of a controlled access highway may be fifty (50) feet above the ground, provided that the lowest point of the sign shall be not less than ten (10) feet above the grade of the elevated controlled access highway;

8.4.4 Outdoor Advertising Signs Greater Than 750 Square Feet

No outdoor advertising sign greater than seven hundred fifty (750) square feet shall be allowed in any district.

8.4.5 Extensions and Embellishments for Outdoor Advertising Signs

A. Allowable Shapes for Outdoor Advertising Signs

Outdoor advertising signs of all sizes shall be rectangular in shape except that extensions are allowed if such extensions are not greater than five (5) feet at the top, two (2) feet at the sides and/or eighteen (18) inches at the bottom of the sign and comprise in the aggregate an area not more than 12.5 percent as great as the basic rectangular shape to which such extensions are attached. Such embellishments are included in the calculation of the sign area restrictions.

B. Extension of Outdoor Advertising Signs

No attached outdoor advertising sign shall extend past the exterior wall of the building to which it is affixed.

C. Double-Faced/V-Type/Back to Back Outdoor Advertising Signs

Double-faced, V-type or back-to-back outdoor advertising signs shall be considered as one sign for spacing purposes.

8.4.6 Form District Specific Outdoor Advertising Sign Restrictions

- A. New outdoor advertising signs shall not be permitted within the Neighborhood, Traditional Neighborhood, Traditional Marketplace Corridor, Traditional Workplace, Town Center, and Downtown Form Districts

The prohibition of new billboards in certain form districts (Section 8.4.6 A) is not subject to the LDC waiver process.

8.5.1 Portable Signs

In addition to the freestanding signs allowed under **Section 8.3.3**, portable signs that include such signs as small freestanding business signs, temporary business signs, temporary banners and special event signs shall be allowed as permitted under this part. For purposes of KRS 100.253 portable signs shall be regarded as personal property unattached to the real property on which they are placed and such signs are not structures and no non-conforming land use rights shall attach to them.

8.5.2 Small Freestanding Business Signs

- A. One small freestanding business sign shall be allowed on each lot located in the C-N, C-1, C-2 and C-M Zoning Districts.
- B. The small freestanding business sign shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet of surface area per face and there shall be no more than two (2) faces. The sign shall not extend more than four (4) feet above the ground on which it is placed.
- C. The small freestanding business sign shall advertise only the business, profession, trade or occupation lawfully practiced on site and/or the generic or brand name products or services lawfully available on site, or religious, charitable or other non-commercial messages. Display of small freestanding business signs shall be limited to the hours of operation of the business, profession, trade or occupation lawfully practiced on site.
- D. Small freestanding business signs shall not be illuminated or contain any electrical component.
- E. No small freestanding business sign shall be allowed within the public right-of-way or public easement, unless all required permits have been issued therefore and it shall be a condition of all such permits that the sign shall be removed from the public right of way or easement when the business is closed.
- F. No small freestanding business sign shall be constructed and placed so as to interfere with vehicular traffic by obstructing sight lines for streets, pedestrian right-of-way and driveways.
- G. Any code enforcement officer or peace officer who finds a small freestanding business sign so placed on private property that the sign as located causes an obstruction to pedestrian or vehicular traffic or restricts the vision of drivers of vehicles on abutting streets or on the subject property may cause the sign to be removed to a safe location on the subject property. Any code enforcement officer or peace officer may remove any sign located on the public right-of-way and dispose of same.
- H. All small freestanding business signs shall be kept in good repair and in a proper state of preservation.

NOTE: Examples of small freestanding business signs are: sandwich boards and 'A' frame signs.

- I. Every small freestanding business sign and the premises immediately surrounding the sign shall be maintained by the owner or person in charge thereof in a clean, sanitary and inoffensive condition, and free and clear of all obnoxious substances, rubbish and weeds.

8.5.3 Temporary Freestanding Business Signs

- A. One temporary freestanding business sign shall be permitted in lieu of a permanent freestanding business sign with a permit from the appropriate building department for a period not to exceed one hundred twenty (120) days within the C-1, C-2, C-M, M-1, M-2, M-3, EZ-1 Zoning Districts. Only one permit shall be issued for a property within a year. Sites with shared business signs shall not be permitted to have a temporary freestanding business sign. The expiration date shall be affixed to the sign at all times when the sign is within public view. A copy of the permit shall be available on the business premises and shall be made available for inspection by the Director or his/her designee.
- B. The temporary freestanding business sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet of surface area per face and there shall be no more than two (2) faces. The sign shall not extend more than six (6) feet above the ground on which it is placed.
- C. The temporary freestanding business sign shall advertise only the business, profession, trade or occupation lawfully practiced on site and/or the generic or brand name products or services lawfully available on site, or religious, charitable or other non-commercial messages.
- D. Temporary freestanding business signs may not be illuminated, or contain any electrical component unless UL approved and unless connected to a ground fault interrupter. All illuminated temporary freestanding business signs shall be non-flashing and any illumination shall be constant in intensity and color. All components of a small freestanding sign shall be non-moving and stationary.
- E. No temporary freestanding business sign shall be allowed within the public right-of-way or public easement
- F. No temporary freestanding business sign shall be constructed and placed so as to interfere with vehicular traffic by obstructing sight lines for streets, pedestrian right-of-way and driveways.
- G. Any code enforcement officer or peace officer who finds a temporary freestanding business sign so placed on private property that the sign as located causes an obstruction to pedestrian or vehicular traffic or restricts the vision of drivers of vehicles on abutting streets or on the subject property may cause the sign to be removed to a safe location on the subject property. Any code enforcement officer or peace officer may remove any sign located on the public right-of-way and dispose of same.
- H. All temporary freestanding business signs shall be kept in good repair and in a proper state of preservation.

- I. Every temporary freestanding business sign and the premises immediately surrounding the sign shall be maintained by the owner or person in charge thereof in a clean, sanitary and inoffensive condition, and free and clear of all obnoxious substances, rubbish and weeds.
- J. Property in the C-1, C-2, C-M, M-1, M-2, M-3, EZ-1 Zoning Districts and located in a Suburban Marketplace Corridor Form District may have a temporary freestanding business sign in accordance with the provisions of this [Section 8.5.3](#). The temporary freestanding sign shall be in addition to permanent freestanding business signs as allowed in this Chapter. No site shall have more than one temporary freestanding sign. Temporary signs shall be displayed for no more than 120 days in a calendar year. The expiration date shall be affixed to the sign at all times when the sign is within public view. A copy of the permit shall be available on the business premises and shall be made available for inspection by the Director or his/her designee.

8.5.4 Temporary Banner Signs

In addition to the permanent attached signs allowed within [Section 8.3.2](#), temporary banner signs (cloth, plastic or other soft material) are allowed in the C-N, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-M, EZ-1, M-1, M-2 and M-3 Districts upon the issuance of a permit by the Director. Only one such temporary banner shall be allowed on any business premises. The area of such a banner shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the sign area allowed for permanent attached business signs on the building façade adjacent to the banner sign pursuant to paragraph [Section 8.3.2B](#). No person shall be allowed to place a temporary banner sign on property owned by him or on property upon which he owns or operates a business, profession, trade or occupation without having received the permit required hereby. Said permit shall be issued by the Director or his deputy upon written request therefore, for a period not to exceed thirty (30) consecutive days and for cumulative periods not to exceed ninety (90) days in any calendar year. Immediately upon expiration of the permit, said temporary banner shall be removed. At all times while the banner is in public view the expiration date of the sign shall be affixed to the sign. The permit for the banner sign shall be kept on the business premises and shall be available for inspection by the Director or his/her designee. Temporary banners shall be attached to permanent structures only.

8.5.5 Special Event Sign

- A. One special event sign shall be permitted for institutional uses with a permit from the appropriate building department for a period not to exceed 120 days within a calendar year. The expiration date of the permit shall be affixed to the sign at all times when the sign is within public view. A copy of the permit shall be located on the property and shall be made available for review upon request.
- B. The special event sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet of surface area per face and there shall be no more than two (2) faces. The sign shall not extend more than six (6) feet above the ground on which it is placed.

- C. The special event sign shall advertise only the activity lawfully practiced on site, related special events including fund raising activities, or religious, charitable or other non-commercial messages.
- D. Special event signs may not be illuminated, or contain any electrical component unless UL approved and unless connected to a ground fault interrupter. All illuminated temporary freestanding business signs shall be non-flashing and any illumination shall be constant in intensity and color. All components of a small freestanding sign shall be non-moving and stationary.
- E. No special event sign shall be allowed within the public right-of-way or public easement.
- F. No special event sign shall be constructed and placed so as to interfere with vehicular traffic by obstructing sight lines for streets, pedestrian right-of-way and driveways.
- G. Any code enforcement officer or peace officer who finds a special event sign so placed on private property that the sign as located causes an obstruction to pedestrian or vehicular traffic or restricts the vision of drivers of vehicles on abutting streets or on the subject property may cause the sign to be removed to a safe location on the subject property. Any code enforcement officer or peace officer may remove any sign located on the public right-of-way and dispose of same.
- H. All special event signs shall be kept in good repair and in a proper state of preservation.
- I. Every special event sign and the premises immediately surrounding the sign shall be maintained by the owner or person in charge thereof in a clean, sanitary and inoffensive condition, and free and clear of all obnoxious substances, rubbish and weeds.
- J. Small special event signs not to exceed four (4) square feet in area each shall be allowed without a permit. Said signs shall not include any electrical or mechanical components and shall be removed from the property within three (3) days after the completion of the advertised event.

8.6.1 Outdoor Advertising Signs And Business Signs Location Limitations For Gene Snyder Freeway

- A. No outdoor advertising signs shall be located within two thousand (2,000) feet of the nearest right-of-way line. No freestanding business signs shall be located within 200 feet of the nearest right-of-way line. No freestanding signs shall exceed twenty (20) feet in height when located between two hundred (200) and five hundred (500) feet of the nearest right-of-way nor exceed eighty (80) square feet in area. Signs shall meet limitations of the zoning district in which they are located.
- B. No small freestanding sign or banners (permanent or temporary) shall be located within two hundred (200) feet of the nearest right-of-way line.
- C. Attached business signs. No sign attached to a building or structure within two hundred (200) feet of the Freeway right-of-way shall exceed eighty (80) square feet in area on any facade visible from the Freeway at any angle or view nor exceed the size limitation of the district in which it is located, or as required by Chapter 8 of the Development Code.
- D. Maps showing the location of the Snyder Freeway right-of-way are available at the Planning Commission offices.

8.6.2 Outdoor Advertising Signs Location Limitations For Parkways And Scenic Corridors

No billboards, temporary, portable or outdoor advertising signs (such as signs located on transit benches) shall be permitted on any property or within any development site or parkway buffer adjacent to a designated parkway or scenic corridor.

8.6.3 Freestanding Business Sign Restrictions For Parkways (see Table 8.6.1 on next page)

Note: When the Form District Regulations are more restrictive then they shall supersede the requirements of **Table 8.6.1**.

Table 8.6.1

Freestanding Business Sign Restrictions for Designated Parkways

Use and Road Frontage	Height	Area
Commercial and Industrial with frontage amount listed below:		
< 450 feet	6 ft.	60 S.F.
Over 450 feet	9 ft.	72 S.F.
Over 600 feet	12 ft.	81 S.F.
Office and Institutional	6 ft.	32 S.F.
Over 600 feet	6 ft.	60 S.F.
Multi-Family Residential	6 ft.	6 S.F.

